

To John Besly

London Sept. 27. 1842.

Sir

I am greatly obliged
by the suggestions you
have been kind enough
to make regarding two
pages in "Patient's Friend"
Perhaps you are hardly
aware of the difficulty
of editing an old play; &
I who have edited many
in my time, know well
how imperfect they are
at the best.

I am disposed to agree

in your first correction,
but you will perceive
that the line may be read
and understood both ways,
though on consideration
I think yours ^{decidedly} the best. At
the same time it is not
unfrequent to change "No"
to "Not"

"No more, Mario, than it
doth disgrace" &c
"Than" was almost always
printed Then at the period
when the play came out.

In your second
amendation I do not con-
cur, and according to my
copy you have not quoted
the passage correctly, as

you insert "Sir" before "Rice".

Sir Owen, being a
Welsh Knight, speaks a
sort of broken English &
"is not, Rice?" means, "is it
not" or "is he not, Rice?"

Had I ~~found~~ to print
the play again, I should
adopt your first ^{with due acknowledgement} con-
dation, but that is not
likely.

I am glad to add
that we are getting on
well at the Shakespeare
Society, and that the pub-
lications this year will
be more numerous than
last year.

I perfectly remember

and thankfully remember
the many kindnesses &
courtesies I received at
the Bodleian, I think from
yourself personally, but
that must be now twelve
or thirteen years ago. I
am now frequently the
cause of trouble there, but
Dr. Bandinel, Mr. Reay &c
are always ready to give
me every assistance.
Allow me to subscribe
myself

My dear Sir

Yours much obliged
& faithful Serv.

J. Payne Collier